




# THE OUTSIDER


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Around **Read the book of Ruth.**  
1320 B.C. a famine covered Israel.

A black and white illustration of a man in a long robe looking down into a circular stone well. The well is empty, and a bright light emanates from the bottom, suggesting a lack of water. The man has a distressed expression.

***It's  
done dry!***  
This well is  
gone too!

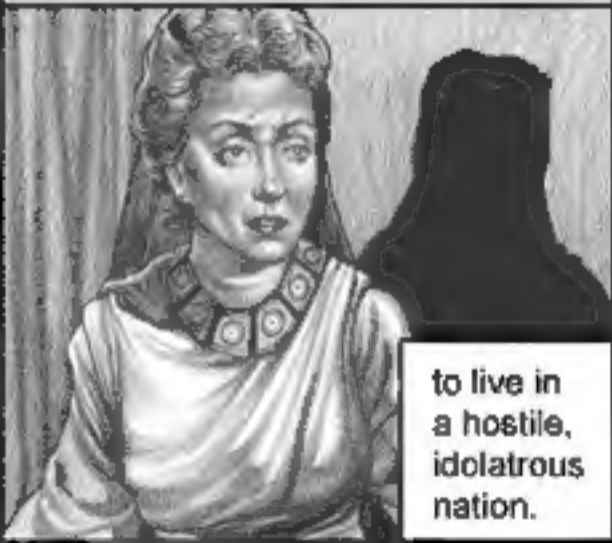
Elimilech, why are you going to Moab?

A black and white illustration of a man in a long robe sitting on a wooden cart. The cart is loaded with sacks and is being pulled by a man. Other people are visible in the background, some sitting on the ground. The scene is set in a town with stone buildings.

They're God's  
enemies!

I don't care!  
We need food  
and water.

Elimilech's wife, Naomi, was bitter about leaving Bethlehem...



to live in a hostile, idolatrous nation.

Years later disaster struck.



Mother, what's wrong?

Your father is dead!

These events would change world history.

Naomi's two sons disobeyed God and married Moabite women.



I feel sick.

I wish we were back in Israel.

Their wives were named Orpah and Ruth.

Within 10 years, Naomi's two sons died also.



*Why me, God?*

*Why me?*

Life in Moab had been cruel to Naomi. Everything was gone.

The famine's over. I'm going home.



Return to your mother's house.

She blessed them and kissed them and they all wept.

Orpah returned to her home and her old gods... *a bad mistake!*



But Ruth refused to leave Naomi, so she became part of God's great plan.

Ruth said:

Whither thou  
goest, I will go...

thy people shall be  
my people, and thy  
God my God.

Where thou diest,  
will I die, and there  
will I be buried...

...the Lord do so to  
me, and more also,  
if ought but death  
part thee and me.

Back at Bethlehem

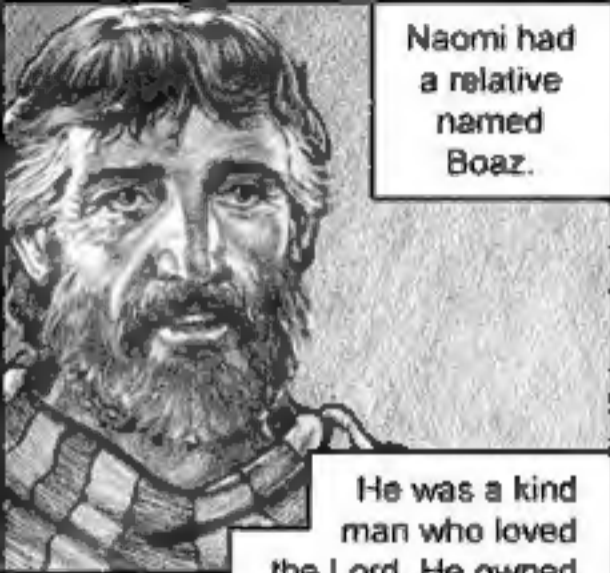
It's Naomi!

**Look!**  
There's a  
Moabite  
with her.

The Almighty afflicted me.

I went away full and  
returned home empty.

They were on the lowest scale of Jewish society because Naomi was a widow and Ruth an outsider.




Naomi had a relative named Boaz.

He was a kind man who loved the Lord. He owned many fields and was very wealthy.

When barley was harvested, the kernels that fell to the ground were to be left for the poor.







May I go to the fields and pick up kernals so we can survive?

Go, my daughter.

Ruth went into a field owned by Boaz.



Who is she?

That's Naomi's daughter-in-law.

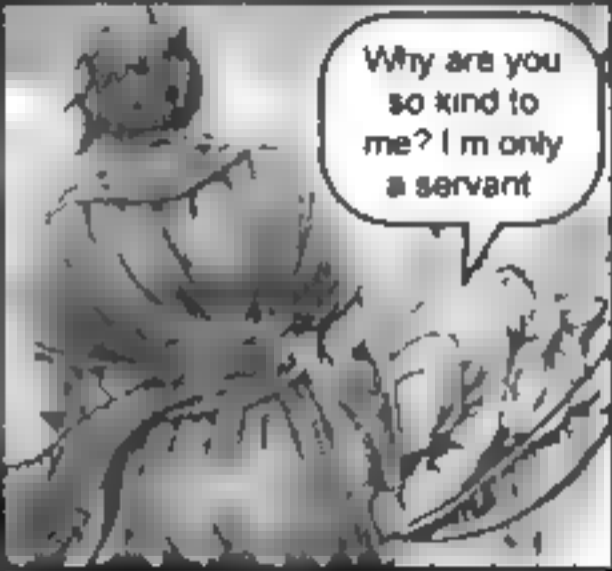
When Boaz heard those words, his heart skipped a beat.



Boaz heard how courteous and diligent Ruth was, so he rode out to meet her.



If you work in *my* fields, no one will harm you.



Boaz was touched by her humility



Ruth was amazed that such a great man even spoke to her

I know how you left your homeland

to live  
among  
people  
you didn't  
even know

May the Lord God of Israel,  
under whose wings you have  
come to trust,

reward you for all your good works




Thank you  
for your  
kindness  
to me

• Boaz became Ruth's protector.

As Ruth carried the gleanings home  
all she could think of was Boaz



God was playing the matchmaker



Boaz likes you  
so you must work  
only in his fields

Yes Mother

Jewish custom required relatives  
to marry childless widows to  
carry on the family line

As a near kinsman  
Boaz was obligated to obey that law

Boaz wasn't responding fast enough



So Naomi planned a way to guil  
induce Boaz into doing his duty

At the end of the harvest, Naomi  
told Ruth:

Tonight, when  
all the men  
are asleep in  
the field on the  
threshing floor

go lie at Boaz feet



At midnight Boaz awoke

Who are you ?

I am Ruth  
your handmaid

I am here to ask you to obey  
the custom of a near kinsman

Boaz blessed Ruth and said

I will do  
what you  
asked  
because  
everyone  
knows you  
are a  
virtuous  
woman





Boaz loved Ruth, but there was a big problem.

There is a closer kinsman than me

Tomorrow I will settle the issue with him

Ruth prayed that God would give her Boaz instead of the other man

Boaz confronted the other kinsman

If you buy Naomi's fields, you must take the Moabites also

Hummm! Those are good fields

But I don't want the woman!

You are free  
to do what  
you want

Boaz paid  
the price and the deal closed.

Ruth and Naomi were overjoyed  
They were saved from a life of  
misery and possible starvation.

**PRAISE GOD!**  
The family line  
will continue!

They were married and Ruth, once an outsider, became the wealthiest and most respected woman in Bethlehem.



God blessed them with a son named Obed who became the grandfather of King David

David



Jesus



Through David's line came the Saviour of the world, Jesus Christ

A kinsman redeemer  
had to be:

1. Related
2. Wealthy
3. Willing



Boaz redeemed a Gentile by  
paying the price to save her.

Ruth was once a widow, a Gentile,  
and an enemy...



who desperately  
needed a kinsman  
redeemer.

*Her  
only hope  
was Boaz.*

We're outsiders because we're all sinners and God allows no sin in heaven. *Like Ruth...*



**WE** need a redeemer. Someone had to pay the price for our sins.

Jesus Christ, the Creator of the universe, is **our** redeemer.



For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)

Our redeemer suffered this...  
*for YOU!*



Jesus shed his blood (God's blood) to wash away our sins, and rose from the dead victoriously.

Jesus can only be **YOUR** redeemer if you let Him.



If you accept Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you will reign with Him in heaven.

## THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

### **NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!**

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

### **WHAT TO PRAY**

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

*If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:*

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at [www.chick.com](http://www.chick.com).

